tion at higher rates. The company has now set up a committee to look into the demand.

Unstable surface areas in Raniganj coal fields

1283. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are unstable surface areas in Raniganj coalfields;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to stabilise these unstable areas; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the estimated cost and the implementation agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Raniganj coalfield is one of the oldest coalfields in the country and mining operations in this area have been going on for nearly a century now. Instances of land subsidence have been reported from time to time in this area over the last several years due to unscientific exploitation of coal in the pre-nationalisation days. In 1950, the Director General of Mines Safety declared 40 places as unsafe for habitation in the district of Burdwan, West Bengal. The State Government has prohibited construction activities in 25 of the 40 areas declared unsafe by DGMS.

(c) and (d) Asansol Durgapur Development Authority set up by the State Government of West Bengal, felt that the unstable underground workings could be stabilised by stowing with sand through surface boreholes. To test the efficacy of the method, Government sanctioned a Pilot Project under Science and Technology programme with a total cost of Rs. 44.84 lakhs to be carried out at Ramjibanpur. The project has been completed. Results are under evaluation Application of the technology experimented with at Ramjibanpur to other areas would depend upon the techno-economic evaluation of the results of the experiment.

Target for self-employed scheme for educated youth in Orissa

1284. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target fixed for 1988-89 of the self-employed scheme for educated unemployed youth in Orissa;

(b) what is the amount disbursed during the year 1987-88 to implement the scheme; and

(c) what is the number of unemployed youth who could get employment in the self-employment schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The target under the Scheme for 1988-89 for Orissa has been fixed at 9300 beneficiaries.

(b) During 1987-88, a sum of Rs. 45.41 lakhs has been disbursed.

(c) Under Self-employment Scheme for educated unemployed youth 36,334 beneficiaries have been sanctioned loans from the year 1983-84 to 1987-88 in Orissa State.

Sick industries in Orissa

1285. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of small-scale and medium-scale industries in the State of Orissa;